

Educational Measures Needs Assessment Meeting

Department of Educational Research
American Printing House

March 6-7, 1979

PROFESSIONAL LIBRARY
AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE FOR THE BLIND
LOUISVILLE KENTUCKY

Educational Measures Needs Assessment Meeting

Department of Educational Research
American Printing House

March 6-7, 1979

The purpose of the meeting was to identify areas of need and particular academic tests considering survey information, short run requests, thermoform requests and test sales information. With these factors at hand it was proposed that a prioritization of need areas and academic tests would take place within the group based on the variety of expertise relating to the individual experience of those involved.

Those present from the Educational Research Staff were June Morris, Sheri Bortner and Bill Duckworth.

Guest consultants were:

Don Adamshick	Ohio State School for the Blind
Lynne Albright	New Hampshire Services for the Blind
Sarah Ashman	Indiana State School for the Blind
Mary Bauman	Nevil Referral Agency (PA)
Michele Chabot	San Tee School System (CA)
Pat Hecht	New Hampshire Services for the Blind
Rosanne Silberman	Hunter College (NY)
Susan Spungin	American Foundation for the Blind

Prior to the meeting, major test publishers had been queried and had identified those tests most widely used nationally. These and other academic measures (see attachment B) were on hand for inspection and worksheets (see attachment C) were utilized so the information could be disseminated at a later date.

The session began with June Morris giving the background and process of test adaptation at the American Printing House. Questions were asked and the point was made of the consultants role in the process. Following this Mary Bauman gave an interim report on a use study or survey of academic tests. The report contained information obtained from 104 respondents (see attachment D) and emphasized their comments on tests they used with the blind. This report should definitely have influence on the decisions made as to which tests are to be adapted.

Following these guidelines and reports each participant investigated several of the tests on hand. There was quite a lot of informal discussion during this process. In looking at the worksheets, there seems a general consensus on the usefulness, utility and adaptability on each of the specific tests. Several tests had parts emphasized as needed in the field while other parts were dismissed as "not useful" or "unadaptable". Whether we adapt parts of tests as specific diagnostic tools needs to be determined with the various factors considered.

PROFESSIONAL LIBRARY
AMERICAN PRINTING HOUSE
LOUISVILLE, KY

Areas of test needs identified were:

- a. A developmental scale for visually handicapped children.
- b. A current achievement series--the 1973 Stanford Achievement Series has been well received but will soon be outdated.
- c. A diagnostic reading test.
- d. A diagnostic mathematics test.
- e. A braille reading comprehension test that can be administered quickly as a screening device.
- f. An auditory discrimination measure.
- g. A mechanical aptitude test.
- h. A performance measure--possibly extending the norms for the Raven's Progressive Matrices downward would meet this need.

In addition to reviewing test needs, some mechanics of test adaptation and use were considered. These included how money pictured in the print edition of a test should be handled in the braille edition, how maps and other graphics should be handled in braille editions, use of electronic calculators in mathematics tests, and use of both braille and large type answer sheets. No definitive conclusions were determined on these and other aspects of adaptation and administration. It seems that these aspects will need further thought and study prior to any determination being made.

Individual worksheets on each of the tests listed on attachment "B", are on file. The worksheets cover: Skill or Area Measured, Problems in adapting to Braille, Problems in adapting to Large Print, Diagnostic uses, rationale for or against adaptation and general comments.

Brian Duckworth

A G E N D A

Meeting on Academic Test Needs

March 6 & 7, 1979

March 6, 1979

- 9:00 - 9:30 Coffee
- 9:30 - 10:00 Introduction and Purpose
- 10:00 - 11:00 Process of test adaptation by APH
June Morris
- 11:00 - 11:45 Report on national use survey
Mary Bauman
- 11:45 - 12:30 Discussion of use information furnished by the
test companies, central catalog requests, short run requests
letters, need surveys, vacuum form requests etc. Committee
members experiences with these evaluative tools.
- 12:30 - 1:30 Lunch arranged at the Inn
- 1:30 - 4:30 Small group investigation of the various specimen sets.
Direction taken from morning's discussion and the test
adaptation worksheet.
- 7:00 Dinner arranged at the Inn

March 7, 1979

- 9:00 - 9:30 Coffee and discussion of the handling of academic test items
that have an element of visual orientation or a visual
concept inherent in their make-up.
- 9:30 - 10:00 Discussion of the appropriateness of a large type answer
sheet and related concepts.
- 10:00 - 12:00 Small group reports and discussion on previous days
investigation of specimen sets.
- 12:00 - 1:00 Lunch arranged at the Inn
- 1:00 - 2:00 Wrap-up, expense reports and check-out.....

American Guidance Service, Inc.

Peabody Individual Achievement Test

Key Math Diagnostic Arithmetic Test

Doren Diagnostic Reading Test of Word Recognition

Woodcock Reading Mastery, Form A

CTB/McGraw-Hill

California Achievement Tests (CAT C)

Comprehensive Tests of Basic Skills, Form Q

Psychological Corporation

Differential Aptitude Tests, Form S

Metropolitan Achievement Tests, 1978

Metropolitan Readiness Tests, 1976

Stanford Diagnostic Mathematics Test, 1976

Stanford Diagnostic Reading Test, 1976

Stanford Early School Achievement Test, 1970

Houghton-Mifflin

Iowa Test of Basic Skills, Forms 7 & 8

The Nelson-Denny Reading Test

The Nelson Reading Skills Test

Test of Achievement and Proficiency

The Vocational Interest, Experience and Skill Assessment (VIESA)

Western Psychological Services

Wide Range Achievement Tests

Educational Testing Service

Cooperative Primary Achievement Test

Step Series Achievement Test Set

Science Research Associates

SRA Achievement Series

Teachers College Press

Gates-MacGinitie Reading Tests (1978 ed. to be put out by Houghton-Mifflin)

TEST ADAPTATION WORKSHEET

TEST:

COMMITTEE MEMBERS

FORM:

LEVEL OR GRADE:

COMPANY:

PUBLISHING DATE:

AREA OR SKILL MEASURED:

(Comments, such as adequacy of measurement)

PROBLEMS IN ADAPTING TO BRAILLE:

(e.g., items that would be dropped: problem graphs, pictures, visual oriented items, etc.)

PROBLEMS IN ADAPTING TO LARGE PRINT:

DIAGNOSTIC USES, HOWEVER SLIGHT:

(in terms of I.E.P.'s. for instance)

Attachment "C"
page 2

RATIONALE FOR OR AGAINST ADAPTATION OF THIS PARTICULAR TEST:

GENERAL COMMENTS AND SUGGESTIONS:

207 B-2002
March 1979

ACADEMIC TEST SPECIMEN SETS TO BE INVESTIGATED

Attachment "D"

American Guidance Service, Inc.

Age	?	Ade.	Good
115 ⁺	(2.5) 23%	(4.5) 41%	(4) 36%
27+	—	(2) 25%	(3) 75%
—	—	—	—
15 ⁺	(2) 25%	(2) 25%	(2) 50%

Peabody Individual Achievement Test

Key Math Diagnostic Arithmetic Test

Doren Diagnostic Reading Test of Word Recognition

Woodcock Reading Mastery, Form A *DK 2 Form A*

CTB/McGraw-Hill

Revised

California Achievement Tests (CAT C)

Comprehensive Tests of Basic Skills, Form Q

Psychological Corporation

Differential Aptitude Tests, Form S *1 Form L
1 DK*

Metropolitan Achievement Tests, 1978 *DK year*

Metropolitan Readiness Tests, 1976

Stanford Diagnostic Mathematics Test, 1976

Stanford Diagnostic Reading Test, 1976 *1966, 1974, 1976*

Stanford Early School Achievement Test, 1970

Houghton-Mifflin

Iowa Test of Basic Skills, Forms 7 & 8 *DK Forms*

The Nelson-Denny Reading Test

The Nelson Reading Skills Test

Test of Achievement and Proficiency

The Vocational Interest, Experience and Skill Assessment (VIESA)

Western Psychological Services

Wide Range Achievement Tests *(selected tests)*

Educational Testing Service

Cooperative Primary Achievement Test

Step Series Achievement Test Set *Cooperative STEP*

Science Research Associates

SRA Achievement Series

Teachers College Press

1965 + DK

Gates-MacGinitie Reading Tests (1978 ed. to be put out by Houghton-Mifflin)

183 ⁺	(4) 7%	(33) 56%	(22) 37%
—	—	—	—
40	—	—	(1) 100%
—	—	—	—
54 ⁺	(1) 25%	(3) 75%	—

